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CLASSIFICATION

SECRET

COUNTRY Soviet Zone of Germany

TOPIC Stockpiles of Service Coal of the Soviet Zone Railways

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DATE OF CONTENT 4 February 1950

PREPARED 15 March 1950

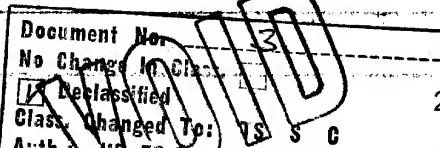
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REMARKS

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The Magdeburg Railroad District Administration will increase its emergency coal reserve by 1,400 tons to a total of 22,000 tons; the Erfurt Railroad District Administration will raise this reserve to 21,000 tons; the pertinent reserve of the Greifswald Railroad District Administration is fixed at 14,600 tons. The Railroad District Administrations of Berlin, Halle, and Schwerin will be allowed to lower their emergency coal reserve stocks to 18, 155, 11,500 and 16,800 tons respectively. The Presidents of the Railroad Districts Administrations will guarantee that these emergency reserves are not drawn upon without a special permit by the Director General.

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CLASSIFICATION

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 13 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

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Railroad District Administration of Magdeburg: 60,000 tons
 Railroad District Administration of Erfurt: 55,000 tons
 Railroad District Administration of Greifswald: 30,000 tons
 Railroad District Administration of Berlin: 65,000 tons
 Railroad District Administration of Halle: 60,000 tons
 Railroad District Administration of Schwerin: 35,000 tons
 Railroad District Administration of Dresden: 65,000 tons
 Railroad District Administration of Cottbus: 30,000 tons

Total: 400,000 tons

These reserve stockpiles were accumulated by October 1949 and maintained until December.

The very mild winter made possible a suspension of the current coal deliveries and by this measure the critical rail traffic situation was eased. The emergency coal reserves were drawn upon so that by 7 February 1950 these had dwindled to 176,028 tons. In some railroad districts such as Magdeburg, Erfurt, and Greifswald, difficulties arose, relative to the availability of locomotives due to a shortage of coal. This situation caused the issuance of the above teletype which decreed increased coal deliveries to the railroad districts concerned.

The daily consumption of coal in the combined eight railroad districts is between 20,000 and 21,000 tons. The present stockpiles thus represent a seven-day ^{SUPPLY} whereas a 14-day to 20-day supply is normally required for smooth railroad operations.

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